

Name_____

Pd._____

A Separate Peace: Chapter 4 Reading and Study Guide

I. VOCABULARY: Be able to define the following words and understand them when they appear in the novel and in class discussion.

enmity_____

rivalry_____

vulnerable_____

II. LITERARY TERMS: Be able to define each term and apply each term to the novel.

foil_____

Example: _____

conflict_____

External: _____ vs. _____

_____ vs. _____

_____ vs. _____

Internal: _____ vs. _____

III. QUESTIONS: answer the following questions. Use complete sentences.

1. How does the description of the setting in the first paragraph differ from the description in the previous chapter?
2. How does Gene do on his trigonometry test?
3. What does Gene reveal to the reader as his real reason for trying to be valedictorian of his class?
4. What trickery does Gene think Finny as been up to?
5. What vulnerability does Gene see in Chet Douglas?
6. Why does Gene continue to attend meetings of the Suicide Society?
7. Why does Finny say Gene should come to the tree?

8. While Finny is on the tree limb, what does Gene do?

IV. Passages: the following passage might prove to be important. Re-read the sections with these passages and think about why they might be significant? What do they mean? What are important ideas, imagery, or words? How do they add or detract from the story? Do they incorporate any literary devices?

“I said nothing, my mind exploring the new dimensions of isolation around me. [. . .] He had never been jealous of me for a second. Now I knew that there never was and never could be any rivalry between us. I was not of the same quality as he.”

“It was hard to remember in the heady and sensual clarity of these mornings; I forgot whom I hated and who hated me. I wanted to break out crying from stabs of hopeless joy, or intolerable promise, or because these mornings were too full of beauty for, because I knew of too much hate to be contained in a world like this.”